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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/032,945	09/27/2001	Manoel Tenorio	020431.0953	7105
53184	7590	08/11/2005	EXAMINER	
i2 TECHNOLOGIES US, INC. ONE i2 PLACE, 11701 LUNA ROAD DALLAS, TX 75234			AIRAPETIAN, MILA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3625	

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/032,945

Applicant(s)

TENORIO, MANOEL

Examiner

Mila Airapetian

Art Unit

3625

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date February 1 2005.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

**Claim 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.**

**Regarding the claim 1**, the limitation “a seller selection interface operable to receive one or more seller requirements from a user and to generate one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements” implies that the generation of one or more custom global content directories is executed by the seller selection interface, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Since claims 2-8 are dependencies of claim 1, they will inherent the same deficiency.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects

for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-13, 16-19, 21-24, 27-30 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chinnapapan et al. (US 2002/0111870).**

**Regarding claim 1,**

Chinnapapan et al. teaches a system for conducting e-commerce over the Internet, comprising:

one or more seller databases including product data for one or more products (see at least Fig.1; [0023]); ("seller's catalogs of products correspond to one or more seller databases");

a seller selection interface operable to receive user's selection (seller requirements) and to generate one or more custom global content directories [0049]; ("a search interface may facilitate such a request by searching or requesting searches of seller databases...")

one or more custom global content directories each including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the products categorized in the product class, at least one of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0007]; and

a search interface associated with the custom global content directories, the search interface operable to communicate a search query to the seller databases to search the product data stored in the seller databases identified by one of the pointers [0047], ("a buyer may access the server and use a GCD interface to search or

navigate GCD and/or seller databases. Information may be communicated between buyers and sellers...")

**Regarding claim 2**, said system, wherein said seller selection interface is further operable to receive one or more product requirements from a user and generate one or more custom global content directories based on the product requirements [0048], (...a buyer may access a GCD (global content directory) interface and perform a search")

**Regarding claim 4**, said system, wherein one or more of the pointers identify particular product data in one or more of the seller databases where the product data is associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0007], ("g... global content directory includes one or more pointers that are associated with each product class")

**Regarding claim 5**, said system, wherein the search query comprises desired values, specified by the user, for one or more of the product attributes associated with the selected product class [0049], ("...buyer can enter in desired search terms, such as "red", "fine"...)

**Regarding claim 6**, said system, wherein the search interface is further operable to: receive search results from one or more of the seller databases in response to the search query, the search results including product data associated with one or more products satisfying the search query and from sellers satisfying the seller requirements; and communicate the search results to the user [0050], ("search interface may communicate a query to the appropriate seller database...")

**Regarding claim 7**, said system, wherein the custom global content directories are further operable to: receive a selection from the user of a product for which product data is included in the search results; and communicate address information associated with a seller database that includes product data for the selected product, the address information enabling the user to communicate with a seller associated with the seller database who satisfy the seller requirements to conduct a commerce transaction

relating to the selected product [0051], ("...GCD may use the RID to look up the associated network address and then communicate the network address to buyer").

**Regarding claim 8**, said system, wherein the custom global content directories comprise one or more private global content directories containing product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify product data only available to one or more buyers associated with the private global content directory [0055], ("buyers are directed by GCD to access product data that is stored in seller databases")

**Regarding claim 10,**

Chinnapapan et al. teaches a computer-implemented method for conducting e-commerce over the Internet, comprising:

receiving one or more seller requirements from a user [0048]; ("a buyer may access a GCD interface and perform a search of global content directory").

creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements, the custom global content directory comprising a directory structure including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the products categorized in the product class, one or more of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify a one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0007]; (page 12, claim 8);

receiving a selection of a product class from the user [0049]; the product class having a pointer identifying one or more of the seller databases [0007];

communicating a search query to the seller databases to search the product data in response to the selection of the product class by the user [0049].

**Regarding claim 11**, said method, wherein one or more of the pointers identify particular product data in one or more of the seller databases where the product data is for sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0055].

**Regarding claim 12**, receiving one or more product requirements from a user; and generating one or more custom global content directories based on the product requirements [0048].

**Regarding claim 13**, creating the custom global content directory comprises associating the product classes with product data for one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0009].

**Regarding claim 16**, communicating a search query to the seller databases comprises communicating the search query to the seller databases associated with the sellers that satisfy the seller requirements [0050].

**Regarding claim 17**, receiving search results from one or more of the seller databases in response to the search query, the search results including product data associated with one or more products satisfying the search query from the sellers satisfying the seller requirements; and communicating the search results to the user [0048].

**Regarding claim 18**, receiving a selection from the user of a product for which product data is included in the search results; and communicating address information associated with a seller database that includes product data for the selected product, the address information enabling the user to communicate with a seller associated with the seller database to conduct a commerce transaction relating to the selected product [0051].

**Regarding claim 19**, creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements comprises creating one or more private global content directories containing product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify product data only available to one or more buyers associated with the private global content directory [0055].

**Regarding claim 21**,

Chinnapapan et al. teaches a computer-readable medium having computer-readable instruction embodied therein, which when executed on said processor, causes said processor to implement said method for conducting e-commerce over the Internet, comprising:

receiving one or more seller requirements from a user [0048];

creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements, the custom global content directory comprising a directory structure including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the products categorized in the product class, one or more of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify a one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0007]; (page 12, claim 8);

receiving a selection of a product class from the user [0049]; the product class having a pointer identifying one or more of the seller databases [0007];

communicating a search query to the seller databases to search the product data in response to the selection of the product class by the user [0049].

**Regarding claim 22**, said medium, wherein one or more of the pointers that identify particular product data in one or more of the seller databases where the product data is for sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0055].

**Regarding claim 23**, receiving one or more product requirements from a user; and generate one or more custom global content directories based on the product requirements [0048].

**Regarding claim 24**, creating the custom global content directory comprises associating the product classes with product data for one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0048].



**Regarding claim 27** said medium, wherein communicating a search query to the seller databases comprises communicating the search query to the seller databases associated with the sellers that satisfy the seller requirements [0048].

**Regarding claim 28**, receiving search results from one or more of the seller databases in response to the search query, the search results including product data associated with one or more products satisfying the search query from the sellers satisfying the seller requirements; and communicate the search results to the user [0048].

**Regarding claim 29**, receiving a selection from the user of a product for which product data is included in the search results; and communicate address information associated with a seller database that includes product data for the selected product, the address information enabling the user to communicate with a seller associated with the seller database to conduct a commerce transaction relating to the selected product [0051].

**Regarding claim 30**, said medium, wherein creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements comprises creating one or more private global content directories containing product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify product data only available to one or more buyers associated with the private global content directory [0055].

**Regarding claim 32**, Chinnapapan et al. teaches said system for conducting e-commerce over the Internet, comprising:

means for receiving one or more seller requirements from a user [0048];

means for creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements, the custom global content directory comprising a directory structure including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the

products categorized in the product class, one or more of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify a one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements [0007]; (page 12, claim 8);

means for receiving a selection of a product class from the user [0049]; the product class having a pointer identifying one or more of the seller databases [0007];

means for communicating a search query to the seller databases to search the product data in response to the selection of the product class by the user [0049].

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 3, 14, 15, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chinnapapan et al. in view of Giovannoli (US 5,758,328).**

**Regarding claim 3**, Chinnapapan et al. teaches said interface operable to generate custom global content directories having pointers identifying sellers database [0007]; [0048]; [0049].

However, Chinnapapan et al. does not teach that said interface is further configured to determining a geographic location for the user and one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the user.

Giovannoli teaches a method and system for conducting communications between buyers and sellers over a network, including an interface configured to

to determine a geographic location for the user and one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the user (col. 5, lines 9-12; col. 7, lines 9-14), (“...select vendors ... who meet any other conditions set by the requesting buyer (e.g. language..., or vendor location”; “a buyer who specifies vendors of volt meters in New York State will reach more vendors than if New York City alone were specified”).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in art at the time the invention was made to modify Chinnapapan et al. to include that said interface is further configured to determining a geographic location for the user and one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the user, as taught by Giovannoli, because it would advantageously allow the buyers to choose sellers from locations that would be preferable from delivery and shipping cost points of views.

**Regarding claim 14**, Chinnapapan et al. teaches all the limitations of claim 14 except that providing multi-language support based upon the geographic location of the user.

Giovannoli teaches providing multi-language support based upon the geographic location of the user (col. 5, lines 9-12, col. 7, lines 9-14), (“...select vendors ... who meet any other conditions set by the requesting buyer (e.g. language..., or vendor location”).

The motivation to combine Chinnapapan et al. and Giovannoli would be to expand business into foreign countries, resulting in increase of revenue and profits for sellers.

**Regarding claims 15, 25 and 26**, these limitations are already covered and analyzed in claims 3 and 14 above.

**Claims 9, 20 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chinnapapan et al. in view of Bezos et al. (US 2005/0154652)**

**Regarding claim 9**, Chinnapapan et al. teaches all the limitations of claim 9, except specifically teaching that the seller selection interface is further operable to receive an access code from the buyer.

Bezos et al. teaches electronic catalog system, wherein a customer uses a password to enter the database [0059], [0063]. (The customer database stores information about existing customers: may include the name, shipping address, e-mail address, payment information, login identifier, **password...**"; "database may also include rules that govern the level of confidence needed before presenting information to the customer. For example, one rule may require that the customer's operating system match the "default" operating system specified in the customer's profile. Another rule may request a **login/password** pair from the customer").

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in art at the time the invention was made to modify Chinnapapan et al. to include that the seller selection interface is further operable to receive an access code from the buyer, as disclosed in Bezos et al., because it would enhance the security of the system, and allow only authorized buyers to access the system.

**Regarding claim 20 and 31**, all these limitations are already covered and analyzed in claim 9 above.

### **Conclusion**

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(i) WO 95/26534 to Portelance et al. discloses a graphic trade directory comprising a graphical user interface providing search and index functions allowing a user to search through product classification.

(ii) EP000697669 to Johnson discloses a catalog database of data including product information relating to catalog items available from vendor product catalogs, and a means for building a requisition.

(iii) EP001256887 to Neal et al. discloses an electronic catalog search engine comprising a configurable search and data subset creation mechanism.

(iv) WO 200016210 to Ross D Delano et al. discloses a catalog that supports a hierarchical browsing mode and various searching functions.

(v) "Introduction to the Product Catalog" (Internet printout) discloses a WebLogic Commerce Server Product Catalog; a browser-based screens that allow users to find products categories or items.

(vi) US Pub. 2002/0019778 to Isaacson et al. discloses a system and method permitting the placement of orders wherein a user transfers a number of selected purchases to the final purchase order or to a shopping cart in a single action.

(vii) US Patent 6,014,644 to Erickson discloses a system and method for facilitating communication between a plurality of buyers a plurality of suppliers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mila Airapetian whose telephone number is (571) 272-3202. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on (571) 272-7159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



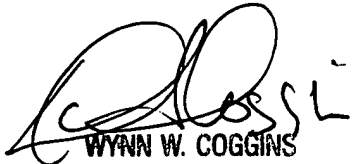
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